

Public hearing and comment period:

Westar Energy, Inc. seeks approval for a rate increase

Westar Energy, Inc. (Westar) is requesting a rate increase of 5.85% or \$90.8 million.

Public Hearing

The Commission has scheduled a public hearing concerning the proposal that Westar Energy, Inc. has requested. This hearing will allow the Westar customers to learn more about the proposal and provide an opportunity for customers to present testimony or comments for the Commission's review.

The public hearing will take place in two parts. First, during the question and answer period, representatives of Westar, the KCC staff, and CURB will be available to answer customers' questions pertaining to the proposal. In the second part of the hearing, customers will be allowed to make formal statements to the three-member Commission.

The KCC has scheduled a public hearing regarding Westar's proposal:

Tuesday, November 29, 2011

6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Kansas Corporation Commission
1500 SW Arrowhead Road, First Floor Hearing Room
Topeka, Kansas 66604

Video conference sites:

K-State Salina, College Center
2310 Centennial Road, College Center Conference Room
Salina, Kansas 67401

Pittsburg State University
201 E. Cleveland, Hughes Hall, Room 315
Pittsburg, Kansas 66762

Wednesday, November 30, 2011

6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

WSU Eugene M. Hughes Metro Complex
5015 E. 29th Street North, Room 180 (Entrance "N")
Wichita, Kansas 67220

The Commission will accept written comments from Westar customers through February 08, 2012. Comments regarding this case should reference Docket No.12-WSEE-112-RTS and should be sent to the Kansas Corporation Commission Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection, 1500 S.W. Arrowhead Road, Topeka, Kansas 66604-4027. Comments may also be submitted by e-mail to the Commission at public.affairs@kcc.ks.gov.

A complete copy of Westar Energy, Inc.'s application and supporting testimony is available on the Commission's website at <http://estar.kcc.ks.gov/estar/portal/kcc/page/docket-docs/PSC/DocketDetails.aspx?DocketId=c1ecb111-9680-4815-bf7a-1f07d4df60d8>. The KCC has until April 23, 2012 to make a decision on the proposed increase.

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On August 25, 2011, Westar Energy, Inc. and Kansas Gas and Electric Company (Westar) filed a joint application seeking a Commission Order to make changes to Westar's charges for electric service.

Westar's application indicates the increase relates primarily to operations and maintenance expenses incurred to maintain a reliable electricity supply, meet federal requirements for funding of its employee pension fund and comply with new regulations on power plant emissions, reliability and network security. Westar's present rates are based on 2007 financial data. Westar's current request is based on a test year ending March 31, 2011.

Westar rates affect approximately 687,000 customers in Topeka, Lawrence, Olathe, Leavenworth, Atchison, Manhattan, Salina, Hutchinson, Emporia, Parsons, Wichita, Arkansas City, El Dorado, Newton, Fort Scott, Pittsburg and Independence, among other towns and rural areas.

Additional Information Available

For more information about the proposed increases, public hearing or technical hearing, contact the Kansas Corporation Commission Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection at 1-800-662-0027. Any person requiring special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act needs to give notice to the Commission at least 10 days before the scheduled hearing date.

The Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board (CURB) can also be contacted 785-271-3200 for further information.